



DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES

Refugee Resettlement

Patricia Fenrick | Resettlement Programs Office

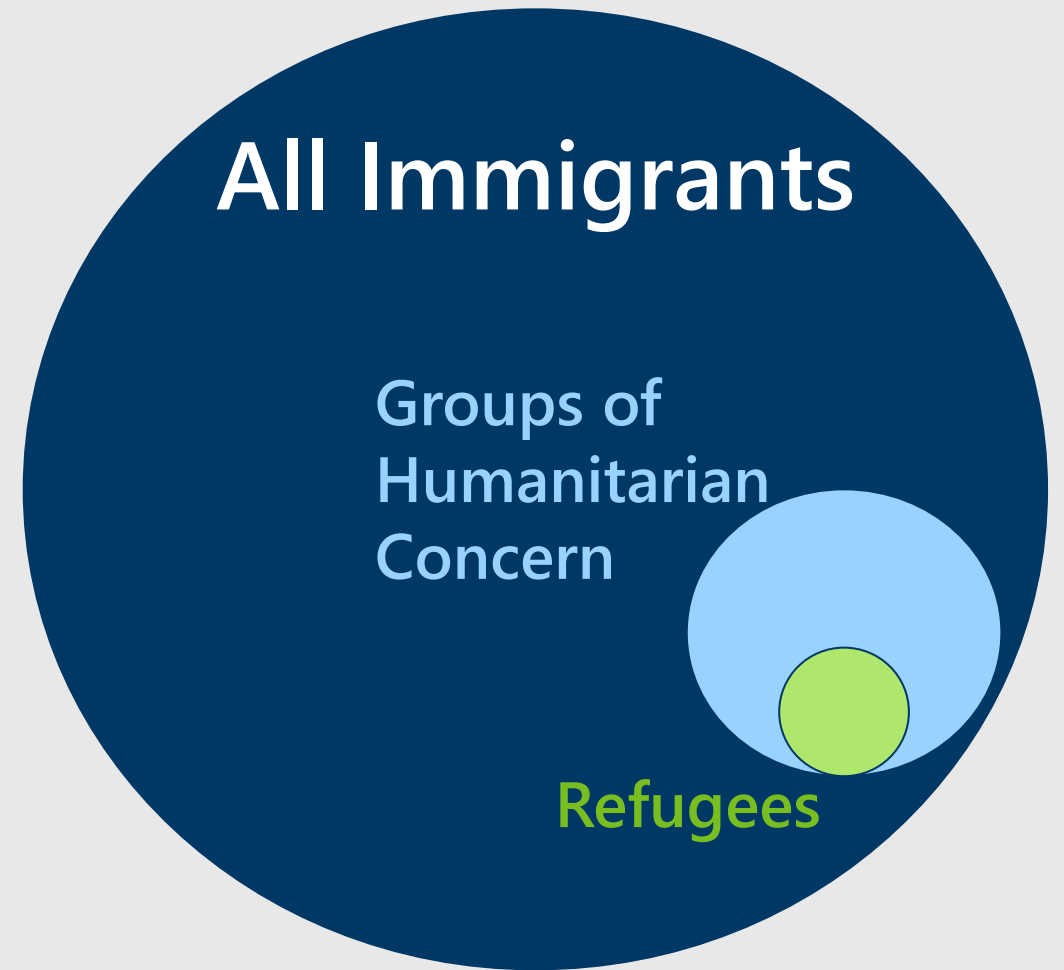
Executive Order 13888

Issued September 26, 2019. Order goes into effect June 2020.

- Requires state and local governments to provide written consent before people with refugee status coming through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program can be resettled. This applies to all people coming through this program, even refugees coming to join family members who are already Minnesotan residents
- Currently, all but 5 states in the U.S. have given their consent. Gov. Walz gave consent for Minnesota on Dec. 13th, 2019

Not All Immigrants are Refugees

An immigrant is a person who was born in another country (not born to U.S. citizen parents) who has come to the United States.



What is refugee status?

Refugee Status is a form of protection granted to people who have been forced to flee their country because of experiencing violence and persecution based on:

- Race
- Religion
- Nationality
- Membership in a particular social group
- Political opinion

Refugee status is granted prior to US arrival to those who meet the processing priorities set by the U.S. Department of State. More than 70% of arrivals are women and children.

Asylum status is a form of protection granted to people who are **already present in the United States or are seeking admission at a port of entry**, who meet the definition and criteria of refugee (experience or fear of persecution). The process for establishing a claim of asylum before an USCIS asylum officer or immigration judge may take some time, often a year or more.

Foreign Born Immigrants

Non-citizen

48%

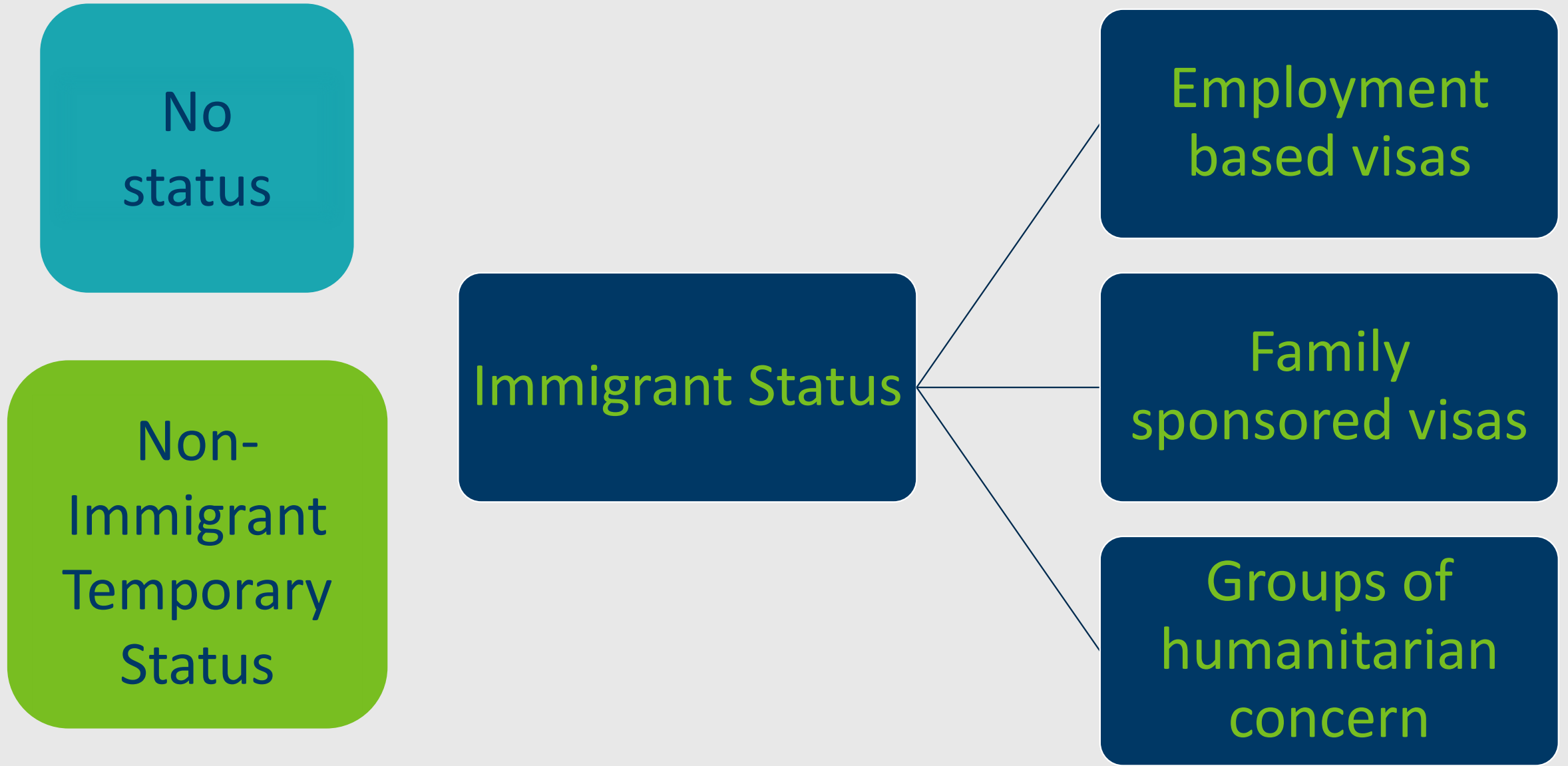
Citizen

52%

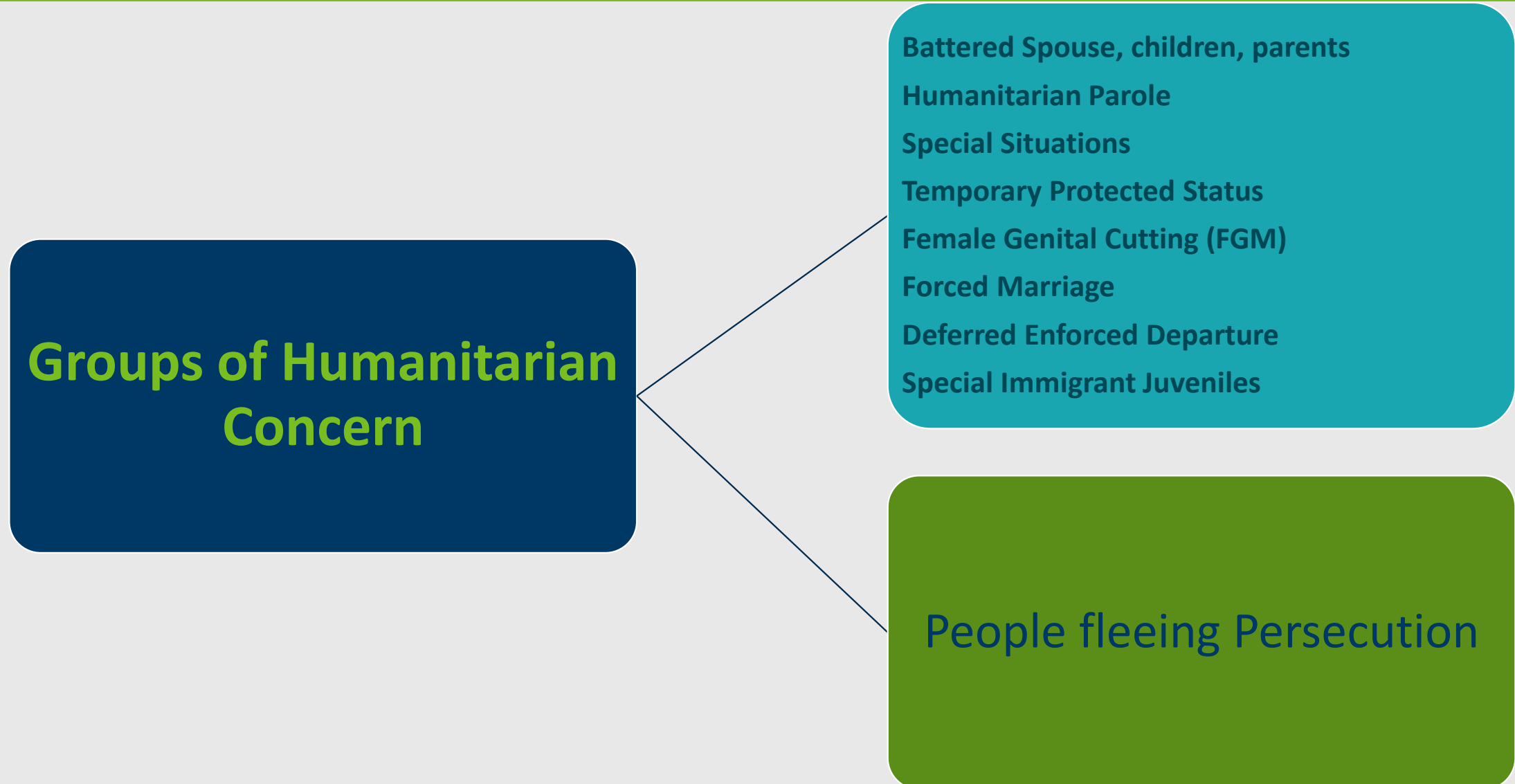
A light blue map of the state of Minnesota is shown. In the center of the map, the text '9%' is displayed in a dark blue font. A small yellow star is located in the lower right portion of the map, representing the state capital, St. Paul.

9%

Non-citizen Status



Groups of Humanitarian Concern



Three distinct phases of resettlement process



Overseas
process



Reception
and
Placement



Building
Well being



Run by
Department of
State and
Homeland
Security

- Presidential Administration sets the limit of refugee arrivals annually which is currently 18,000.
- All people who come through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program are approved and screened prior to arrival in the U.S.
- **People selected through this process have legal, permanent status in the U.S., immediate work authorization and a pathway to Citizenship after 5 years.**

U.S. Refugee Security Process

The
vetting
procedure
involves

- Department of Homeland Security
- Department of State
- Department of Justice
- Department of Defense
- National Counterterrorism Center
- Department of Health and Human Services
- FBI
- U.S. Customs and Border Protection

Reception and Placement



Run by
Department of
State and Non
Governmental
Organizations

- Federally funded with community (private) support raised through the NGOs
- Initial resettlement guidance for 30-90 days which ensures basic needs are met with a focus on early self-sufficiency.

Last year Minnesota received 848 people through the U.S. Refugee Admissions program.
In 2020 expect less than 500 statewide due to federal changes

Reception and Placement Services

5 Minnesota Resettlement Agencies:

- Arrive Ministries – Richfield
- Catholic Charities- Rochester
- International Institute of MN – St. Paul
- Lutheran Social Services -
Minneapolis, St. Cloud
- MN Council of Churches - Minneapolis

Building Well being in Minnesota



Run by Minnesota
Department of
Human Services
Resettlement
Programs Office

- Federally funded
- Non-mandatory services during first 5 years for self-sufficiency and integration
 - Employment
 - Family coaching
 - Navigation services
 - Community orientation
 - Student success)

Economic cost and contribution

Initial investment:

- Loan for plane ticket travel which is paid back
- Integration support as people adjust to new school system, new culture and navigating in society

Long term contribution:

- Workforce and tax contributions
- \$1.8 Billion in spending power
- Over \$227 million annually contributed in state and local taxes

Thank you!

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